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Ratifications

Art. XV. The present treaty shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at London in six weeks, or sooner, if possible.

In witness whereof the respective plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at London, the 13th day of July, in the year of Our Lord, 1863.

(L. S.) RUSSELL.

(L. S.) BILLE.

(L. S.) BON. GROS.

(L. S.) BRUNNOW.

TREATY BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN, FRANCE, RUSSIA, AND GREECE,
RESPECTING THE UNION OF THE IONIAN ISLANDS TO THE KINGDOM
OF GREECE.¹

*Signed at London, 29th March, 1864; ratifications exchanged at London,
25th April, 1864²*

(Translation as laid before Parliament)

Reference to Treaty of 5th November, 1815

In the name of the Most Holy and Indivisible Trinity

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland made known to the Legislative Assembly of the United States of the Ionian Islands that, with a view to the eventual union of those Islands to the Kingdom of Greece, she was prepared, if the Ionian Parliament should express a wish to that effect, to abandon the protectorate of those Islands, confided to Her Majesty by the treaty concluded at Paris on the 5th November, 1815,³ between the courts of Great Britain, Austria, Prussia, and Russia. Such wish having been expressed by a vote of the said Legislative Assembly passed unanimously on the 7/19th October, 1863,⁴ Her Britannic Majesty consented by Article I of the treaty concluded on the 14th November, 1863,⁵

¹ Hertslet, *Map of Europe by Treaty*, Vol. III, p. 1589.

² The Sultan acceded to this treaty on the 8th April, 1865.

³ Hertslet, Vol. I, p. 337. ⁴ *Ibid.*, Vol. II, p. 1565. ⁵ *Ibid.*, Vol. II, p. 1569.

between Her Majesty, the Emperor of Austria, the Emperor of the French, the King of Prussia, and the Emperor of All the Russias, to renounce the said protectorate under certain conditions specified in that treaty, and since defined by subsequent protocols.

On their part, their Majesties the Emperor of Austria, the Emperor of the French, the King of Prussia, and the Emperor of All the Russias, consented by the same article, and under the same conditions, to accept such renunciation, and to recognize, in conjunction with Her Britannic Majesty, the union of those Islands to the Kingdom of Greece.

In virtue of Article V of the treaty signed at London on the 13th July, 1863, it was moreover agreed by common consent between Her Britannic Majesty and their Majesties the Emperor of the French and the Emperor of All the Russias, that the Ionian Islands, when their union to the Kingdom of Greece should have been effected, as contemplated by Article IV of the same treaty, should be comprised in the guarantee stipulated in favor of Greece by the courts of Great Britain, France, and Russia, in virtue of the convention signed at London on the 7th May, 1832.

In consequence, and in accordance with the stipulations of the treaty of the 13th July, 1863, and with the terms of Article VI of the treaty of the 14th November, 1863, whereby the courts of Great Britain, France, and Russia, in their character of guaranteeing Powers of the Kingdom of Greece, reserved to themselves to conclude a treaty with the Hellenic Government as to the arrangements which might become necessary in consequence of the union of the Ionian Islands to Greece, their said Majesties have resolved to proceed to negotiate with His Majesty the King of the Hellenes a treaty for the purpose of carrying into execution the stipulations above mentioned.

His Majesty the King of the Hellenes having given his assent to the conclusion of such treaty, their said Majesties have named as their plenipotentiaries, that is to say:

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Right Honorable John Earl Russell, Viscount Amberley of Amberley and Ardsall, a Peer of the United Kingdom, a member of Her Britannic Majesty's Privy Council, her Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs;

His Majesty the Emperor of the French, the Sieur Godefroy Bernard Henry Alphonse, Prince de la Tour d'Auvergne Lauraguais, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Her Britannic Majesty, etc.;

His Majesty the Emperor of All the Russias, the Sieur Philip Baron de Brunnow, his Actual Privy Councillor, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Her Britannic Majesty, etc.;

And His Majesty the King of the Hellenes, the Sieur Charilaüs S. Tricoupi, a representative in the National Assembly of the Hellenes;

Who, after having exchanged their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon and signed the following articles:

Renunciation of Great Britain to protectorate over the Ionian Islands

Art. I. Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, desiring to realize the wish expressed by the Legislative Assembly of the United States of the Ionian Islands, that those Islands should be united to Greece, has consented, on the conditions hereinafter specified, to renounce the protectorate over the Islands of Corfu, Cephalonia, Zante, Santa Maura, Ithaca, Cerigo, and Paxo, with their dependencies, which, in virtue of the treaty signed at Paris, on the 5th November, 1815, by the plenipotentiaries of Great Britain, Austria, Prussia, and Russia, were constituted a single free and independent state, under the denomination of "the United States of the Ionian Islands," placed under the immediate and exclusive protection of His Majesty the King of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, his heirs and successors.

Union of Ionian Islands to Greece

In consequence, Her Britannic Majesty, His Majesty the Emperor of the French, and His Majesty the Emperor of All the Russias, in their character of signing parties to the convention of the 7th May, 1832, recognize such union, and declare that Greece, within the limits determined by the arrangement concluded at Constantinople between the courts of Great Britain, France, and Russia, and the Ottoman Porte, on the 21st July, 1832, including the Ionian Islands, shall form a monarchical, independent, and constitutional state, under the sovereignty of His Majesty King George, and under the guarantee of the three courts.

*Perpetual neutrality of Ionian Islands*¹

Art. II. The courts of Great Britain, France, and Russia, in their character of guaranteeing Powers of Greece, declare, with the assent of the courts of Austria and Prussia, that the Islands of Corfu and Paxo, as well as their dependencies, shall, after their union to the Hellenic Kingdom, enjoy the advantages of perpetual neutrality.

Greece to maintain the neutrality

His Majesty the King of the Hellenes, on his part, to maintain such neutrality.

Treaties, etc., of commerce and navigation between Great Britain and foreign Powers relative to Ionian Islands to remain in force until conclusion of new treaty.

Art. III. The union of the Ionian Islands to the Hellenic Kingdom shall not involve any change as to the advantages conceded to foreign commerce and navigation in virtue of treaties and conventions concluded by foreign Powers with Her Britannic Majesty, in her character of protector of the Ionian Islands.

All the engagements which result from the said transactions, as well as from the regulations actually in force in relation thereto, shall be maintained and strictly observed, as hitherto.

In consequence, it is expressly understood that foreign vessels and commerce in Ionian ports, as well as the navigation between Ionian ports and the ports of Greece, shall continue to be subject to the same treatment, and placed under the same conditions as before the union of the Ionian Islands to Greece, until the conclusion of new formal conventions, or of arrangements destined to regulate between the parties concerned, questions of commerce and navigation, as well as questions relating to the regular service of communication by post.

Terms within which new commercial treaties are to be concluded

Such new conventions shall be concluded in fifteen years, or sooner, if possible.²

¹ A protocol on this subject was also signed between the five Powers on the 25th January, 1864.

² The Austrian and Prussian Governments assented to this arrangement.

Freedom of worship and religious toleration

Art. IV. The union of the United States of the Ionian Islands to the Kingdom of Greece shall in no wise invalidate the principles established by the existing legislation of those Islands with regard to freedom of worship and religious toleration; accordingly the rights and immunities established in matters of religion by Chapters I and V of the Constitutional Charter of the United States of the Ionian Islands,¹ and specifically the recognition of the Orthodox Greek Church as the dominant religion in those Islands; the entire liberty of worship granted to the established Church of the protecting Power; and the perfect toleration promised to other Christian communions shall, after the union, be maintained in their full force and effect.

The special protection guaranteed to the Roman Catholic Church, as well as the advantages of which that church is actually in possession, shall be equally maintained; and the subjects belonging to that communion shall enjoy in the Ionian Islands the same freedom of worship which is recognized in their favor by the protocol of the 3d February, 1830.

The principle of entire civil and political equality between subjects belonging to different creeds, established in Greece by the same protocol, shall be likewise in force in the Ionian Islands.

Provision of Ionian Islands towards the civil list of the King of the Hellenes

Art. V. The Legislative Assembly of the United States of the Ionian Islands has decreed by a resolution passed on the 7/19th October, 1863, that the sum of £10,000 sterling a year shall be appropriated, in monthly payments, to the augmentation of the civil list of His Majesty the King of the Hellenes, so as to constitute the first charge upon the revenue of the Ionian Islands, unless provision be made for such payment, according to the constitutional forms, out of the revenues of the Kingdom of Greece.

In consequence, His Majesty the King of the Hellenes engages to carry that decree duly into execution.

¹ Ratified by the Sovereign of Great Britain on the 26th August, 1817.

Relinquishment by protecting Powers of portion of the annual sums to be paid to them by Greece

Art. VI. Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, His Majesty the Emperor of the French, and His Majesty the Emperor of All the Russias, agree to relinquish in favor of His Majesty King George I, each £4,000 sterling a year, out of the sums which the Greek Treasury has engaged to pay annually to each of them, in virtue of the arrangement concluded at Athens by the Greek Government, with the concurrence of the Greek Chambers, in the month of June, 1860 (No. 318).

Amounts relinquished to form personal dotation of King of Greece

It is expressly understood that these three sums, forming a total of £12,000 sterling annually, shall be destined to constitute a personal dotation of His Majesty King George I, in addition to the civil list fixed by the law of the state. The accession of His Majesty to the Hellenic throne shall not otherwise involve any change in the financial engagements which Greece has contracted by Article XII of the convention of 7th May, 1832, towards the Powers guaranties of the loan, nor in the execution of the engagement taken by the Hellenic Government in the month of June, 1860, upon the representation of the three courts.¹

Contracts between Ionian Islands and foreign Powers to be maintained by King of the Hellenes

Art. VII. His Majesty the King of the Hellenes engages to take upon himself all the engagements and contracts lawfully concluded by the Government of the United States of the Ionian Islands, or in their name, by the protecting Power of those Islands, conformably to the Constitution of the Ionian Islands, whether with foreign governments, with companies and associations, or with private individuals; and promises to fulfil the said engagements and contracts fully and completely, as if they had been concluded by His Majesty or by the Hellenic Government. Under this head are specially included: the public debt of the Ionian Islands; the privileges conceded to the Ionian Bank, to the navigation company known under the name of the

An Act of Parliament was passed on the 14th July, 1864 (27th and 28 Vict., cap. 40), to give effect to this arrangement.

Austrian Lloyds, in conformity with the postal convention of the 1st December, 1853, and to the Malta and Mediterranean Gas Company.

Pensions, etc., to British and Ionian subjects to be paid by Greece

Art. VIII. His Majesty the King of the Hellenes promises to take upon himself, —

1. The pensions granted to British subjects by the Ionian Government, in conformity with the rules established in the Ionian Islands respecting pensions.

2. The compensation allowances due to certain individuals actually in the service of the Ionian Government, who will lose their employments in consequence of the union of the Islands to Greece.

3. The pensions which several Ionian subjects are in the enjoyment of, in remuneration of services rendered to the Ionian Government.

Special convention to regulate amounts

A special convention to be concluded between Her Britannic Majesty and His Majesty the King of the Hellenes shall determine the amounts of these different heads, and shall regulate the mode of their payment.¹

Withdrawal of British forces from the Ionian Islands

Art. IX. The civil authorities and the military forces of her Britannic Majesty shall be withdrawn from the territory of the United States of the Ionian Islands in three months or sooner, if possible, after the ratification of the present treaty.²

Ratifications

Art. X. The present treaty shall be ratified and the ratifications shall be exchanged at London in six weeks, or sooner, if possible.

In witness whereof the respective plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at London, the 29th of March, in the year of Our Lord, 1864.

(L. S.) RUSSELL.

(L. S.) CH. TRICOUPI.

(L. S.) LA TOUR D'AUVERGNE.

(L. S.) BRUNNOW.

¹ Convention of same date. Hertslet, Vol. III, p. 1596.

² See protocol of 28th May, 1864. Hertslet, Vol. III, p. 1606.